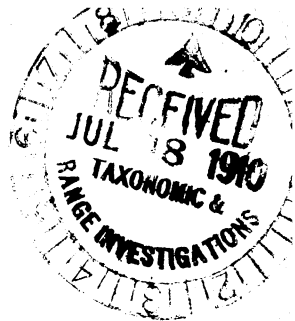


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NO. 38.

BULLETIN OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTIONS.

May 16 to 23, 1910.

NEW PLANT IMMIGRANTS.

ABELMOSCHUS ESCULENTUS. 27810. From Erivan, Caucasus. A native Caucasian variety of okra, said to be fine. This vegetable passes here under the Tartar name of Pam-ya. (Meyer's introduction.)

ALLIUM CEPA. 27809. From Erivan, Caucasus. A Caucasian variety of white winter onion; very sweet and rather solid. (Meyer's introduction.)

ANCHUSA MYOSOTIDIFLORA. 28023. A beautiful perennial spring-flowering plant, looking strikingly like a large forget-me-not. (Meyer's introduction.)

BAUHINIA MONANDRA. 27159. From Deli, Portuguese Timor, East Indies. Presented by Mr. O. W. Barrett. "Ornamental shrub. Pod 20-22 cm. long. Probably new or very rare in America. Adapted to California, Gulf States, Porto Rico, etc." (Barrett.) For distribution later.

CACARA EROSA. 27959. From Tampico, Mexico. Presented by Dr. Edward Palmer. Seed of a vine called Jicama de agua. "This is the finest and most valued variety, because of the agreeable water it affords. Travelers carry a supply of the roots as a substitute for water. Last winter it was for sale at many street corners." (Palmer.) For distribution later.

CANNABIS SATIVA. 27960. From Gumma Prefecture, Japan. Purchased from the Yokohama Nursery Co. A large variety of hemp, said to grow 10 feet high. For distribution later.

CHENOPODIUM QUINOA. 28017. From Bolivia. Presented by Senor Don Ygnacio Calderon of the Bolivian Legation. "This grain is very nutritious; the plant grows well at high altitudes and requires little moisture." (W. A. Reid.) "I find there are three kinds of quinoa grown here. It is principally used by the Indians. They make various kinds of food and drink from it. The latter is called 'chicha', and when fermented is quite intoxicating. Quinoa is also used as rice is used in soups, and the Indians make a dish out of it which looks like a sort of watery mush or hominy, which is not bad to eat. They also grind it up on a stone and make a kind of

Indian bread, like coarse graham bread, which is good and much more nutritious, it is claimed, than corn bread." (A. L. Jackson, Andes Trading Co., La Paz, Bolivia.) For distribution later.

CHRYSOPHYLLUM CAINITO. 27572. Star-apple from Ancon, Canal Zone, Panama. Presented by Mr. N. E. Coffey at the request of Mr. H. F. Schultz. "One of the most common fruit trees indigenous to the Canal Zone. The trees are from 25 to 75 feet high, and are characterized by magnificent evergreen foliage. The fruit has the size and appearance of a small apple and is regularly 6-10 celled, so that when halved the inside of the fruit is star-shaped. In color it is pale green, blue or purple. The pulp has a jelly-like consistency, and when fully ripe, a rich, yet delicate flavor." (Schultz.) For distribution later.

CICER ARIETINUM. 27814. From Tiflis, Caucasus. A variety of chickpea said to come from the vicinity of Gori, Central Caucasus. There are apparently several strains mixed up in this lot. This chickpea remains somewhat hard, even when boiled a long time. 27815. A variety of chickpea said to come from Cachiti, Central Caucasus. Considered a finer variety than the preceding; becomes quite soft when boiled. (Meyer's introductions.)

CITRULLUS VULGARIS. 27804. From Erivan, Caucasus. Mixed local varieties of watermelons, including red and yellow ones. Reputed to be of fine quality. These and other vegetables from this region to be tested under irrigation in the hot-summered and semi-arid sections of the United States. 27986-987. Watermelons from Elisavetpol, Caucasus. The Elisavetpol watermelons are noted for their large size and good quality. No. 27987 produces fruits weighing as much as 30 lbs., and the seeds are scarcely noticeable. (Meyer's introductions.)

CLAUCENA WAMPI. 27954. From Honolulu, Hawaii. Procured by Mr. J. E. Higgins. "The trees which I have seen in Hawaii are about 18-20 feet high and bear quite freely; their fruits are about the size of a cherry, and a straw-yellow in color, very much like the longan. The fruit is very highly prized by the Chinese." (Higgins.) For distribution later.

CUCUMIS MELO. 27805. From Erivan, Caucasus. A celebrated local variety called "Dootma", said to be very fine. These melons are buried underneath the soil while growing, otherwise they do not acquire the right flavor and aroma. 27988. The same variety as above, from Geok-Tapa. 27989-991. Three choice local varieties of muskmelons from Elisavetpol and Geok-Tapa, Caucasus. (Meyer's introductions.)

CUCUMIS SATIVUS. 27806. From Erivan, Caucasus. A local variety of cucumber, said to be good. Half-long green, trained on stakes. 27992. From Geok-Tapa. A very fine local variety of cucumber; green, medium large and very tender. (Meyer's introductions.)

FEIJOA SELLOWIANA. 27957. Guayuba. From Salto, Uruguay. Procured by Mr. John J. C. Williams. "A plant belonging to the guava family. Dr. Andre, who has paid special attention to this fruit, pronounces it something exceptionally delicious. The fruits are about the size of a large English walnut, green in color and covered with blunt protuberances. It is believed that the plant can be grown successfully in all the frostless regions of the Southwest. It is well worthy of serious consideration by all those interested especially in subtropical fruit culture." (Fairchild.) For distribution later. (See photograph.)

GOSSYPIUM SP. 27934. From Unsan, Korea. Presented by Mr. J. D. Hubbard. "This seed was all grown north of the 40th parallel and is probably the hardiest cotton in existence. On favorable soil it grows waist high and has many pods. The pods are not gathered until the bush has been killed by frost in late October or November. This plant has undoubtedly gained in hardiness during the ages it has been planted by the northern Koreans. The main article of clothing among the Koreans is the cotton suit made from the home product." (Hubbard.) For distribution later.

HALOXYLON AMMODENDRON. 27802. From Tiflis, Caucasus. The Saxaul, a tree or tall shrub, resisting alkali and aridity to a most remarkable degree. In certain sections of Central Asia it is practically the only tree to be found, and its wood is much used for fuel. Remarkable as a wind break and fuel supply in the desert regions of the Southwestern United States. Obtained from the Tiflis Botanical Garden, the only garden in the world where a plantation of this remarkable plant exists. (Meyer's introduction.)

HORDEUM SP. 27801. From Tiflis, Caucasus. A sample of black winter barley, used locally for horse feed. Obtained from the Secretary of the Agricultural Society in Tiflis. **HORDEUM VULGARE NIGRUM.** 27829. A black winter barley, grown in the vicinity of Tiflis. Extensively used as a feed for horses, instead of oats, as the latter do not grow well in the Caucasus. This barley is generally soaked over night before being fed to the animals. (Meyer's introductions.)

LENS ESCULENTA. 27816. From Tiflis, Caucasus. A legume considered locally to be a variety of lentil. Eaten by the natives, boiled in soup. Although small, it is said to have a much finer taste than the large ones. It may be of value as a fodder or cover plant in semi-arid sections. (Meyer's introduction.)

LEPIDIUM SATIVUM. 27811. From Erivan, Caucasus. A native vegetable called Kodim, grown out doors in protected places, throughout the winter. Eaten raw as a salad with meats. Apparently a broad-leaved variety of the garden cress. (Meyer's introduction.)

MALUS SP. 27968. From Geok-Tapa, Caucasus. A bushy apple which rarely grows over 5 feet in height. It produces red apples of fair quality, is very drought resistant and stands high summer temperatures. May be used in hybridization and in creating a strain of bush apples. (Meyer's introduction.)

MANGIFERA INDICA. 27926-928. Three varieties of mango from Port Louis, Mauritius: Aristide, Baissac, and Maison Rouge. Presented by Mr. G. Regnard, who says the Aristide is the best of their mangos. For distribution later.

MEDICAGO SP. 27979. From between Dushet and Passanaura, Caucasus. A small leaved, perennial medicago, growing in stony debris that has been washed from the mountain sides. Found at elevations of between 4,000 and 5,000 feet above sea level. (Meyer's introduction.)

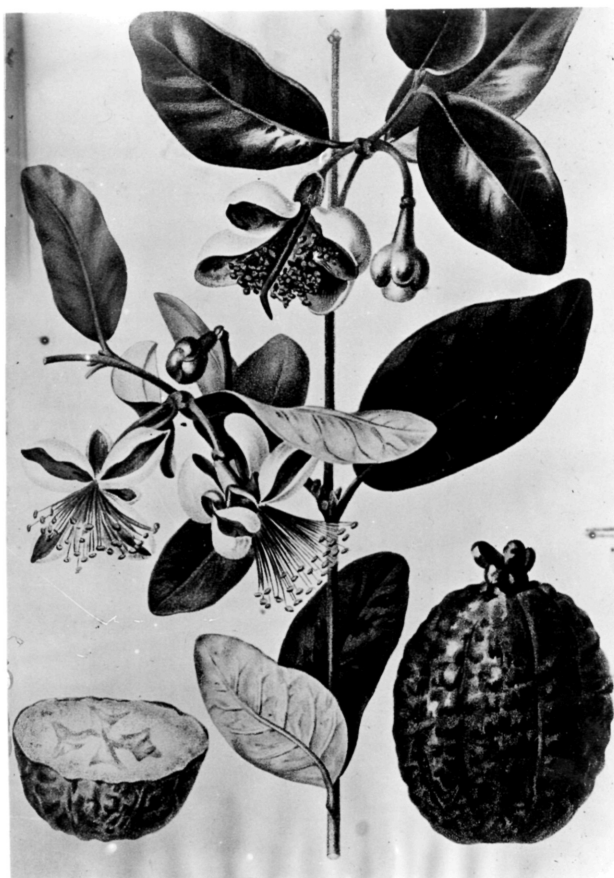
NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

CHILE, Limavida. Mr. Jose D. Husbands, April 28. Describes a variety of native cotton found at Pita, near Callao, Peru. The fiber is fawn color, having a natural luster. Thinks it has great possibilities for making a good, cheap cloth.

MEXICO, Minatitlan. Mr. J. S. Spencer, May 2. Describes a very large and exceedingly fine avocado growing there. He says it is the finest in flavor and color of any that he has seen in 20 years' experience in the tropics. Promises to send budwood of it. Also offers to send mango seed.

PORTUGAL, Lisbon. Mr. Louis H. Ayme, May 13. Will send almeixas, or Elvas prunes, in June, when the new crop is in. These are prepared in a special way and are classed by London fancy fruit dealers as some of the best semi-candied prunes in the market.

CAUCASUS, MR. FRANK N. MEYER, AGRICULTURAL EXPLORER. Writes from Tiflis, April 1, that he has heard of three new varieties of grapes, two of them white table grapes that will keep for a year, and the third from the Erivan district, which stands more alkali than any other variety. Among the specimens sent with this letter were three varieties of hazelnuts, and a fine sample of dried fruits of *Prunus insititia*; also samples of a Caucasian sweetmeat made from condensed grape juice, flour and nuts. Writes from Piatigorsk, May 8, that he has found a plant collector who has been all through Central Asia, Russian and Chinese Turkestan, parts of Mongolia, of Persia and nearly the whole of the Caucasus. He is arranging to have him accompany him on his trip. On his journey from Tiflis to Piatigorsk he found wild pears, apples, plums and cherries in full bloom in the valleys, while the higher plateaus were still covered with snow. Has heard of several new things, among them a very hardy variety of black currant (*Ribes nigrum caucasicum*), growing in high mountain regions in Northwestern Caucasus, where the cold is extreme; also a wonderful variety of sweet table grape in a mountain valley near the northeast coast, having berries as large as Reine Claude plums. There are also quinces in that section, weighing as much as 2 lbs. apiece, which can be eaten like apples after they have lain a couple of months. There is a native species of *Asparagus*, *A. verticillatus*, the thin, green young shoots of which make an excellent vegetable with a much more piquant taste than our ordinary asparagus.



Feijoa sellowiana.

The guayuba, from Uruguay and Brazil, belonging to the guava family. Dr. Andre, who has paid special attention to this fruit, pronounces it something exceptionally delicious. The fruits are about the size of a large English walnut, green in color and covered with blunt protuberances. It is believed that the plant can be grown successfully in all the mild-wintered sections of the United States. Plants have endured a temperature of 18° F. without serious injury. It is well worthy of serious consideration by all those interested in fruit culture.

Plants are now ready for distribution under S.P.I. Nos. 26120 and 26121.